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OTE 84-1212

1 May 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Officer, DDA

FROM:

Executive Officer/OTE

25X1

SUBJECT: Economic Collection Course for Case Officers

REFERENCE: Memo from Executive Director to Deputy Directors
Dated 17 April 1984; Subject: Implementing the
Economic Challenge: Issues Capabilities and New
Initiatives

George:

1. Although we were not specifically tasked with responding to the item in referenced paper, would like to share with you some historical data on the subject.

2. OTE Offered a three-day Economic Collection Course for the Directorate of Operations (ECDO) put on in cooperation with Political-Economic Group in IAD from 1977 - 1981. This was a follow-on to the International Economics Course, and was open only to DO officers. Enrollment in the last ECDO in October 1981 was only 11 of the minimum 15, and since that time the most ever enrolled has been three.

3. In addition, the nature of the briefings in the ECDO was too general to be of real utility to a case officer going to a specific country. Most speakers added that the process of collecting economic intelligence was not very different from collecting political intelligence -- only the substance was different.

4. Case officers would probably be best served by taking the Agency's International Economics Course, in order to acquire an understanding of economic jargon and important issues in international economics, and then spending time with the desk officer, reports officers, and analyst who deal with the specific target.

5. Hope this will be of some use.

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